



News Release

Big Day for NWT High Performance Snowboarders

Cypress Mountain, BC (April 5, 2008) – Andrew Matthews and Darryl Tait represented the NWT at the Canadian Snowboard Federation National Championships held at Cypress Mountain April 4 & 5, 2008. Both men had awesome runs in the Men's Halfpipe competition. Matthews placed 7th in his qualifying heat missing the cut off for Finals by only point 1 of a point. Tait placed 9th in his heat, only two points short of making the Finals. Both men are also Junior riders. Tait ended up 8th in the Junior Category and Matthews right behind him in 9th; overall they were 15th and 16th respectively with only point four of a point between them.

After the event Tait said: "I was a little intimidated at first with the level of riding. I worked with my coach Chris in training and learned to do 720's right before the competition. I was stoked when I landed it in my run." Tait recently competed in the 2008 Arctic Winter Games coming in 2nd overall only one point behind the gold medal winner.

Matthews also was very pleased with his riding. He had just come off a knee injury and was only cleared to compete at Nationals by his physician on Wednesday, two days before the event. According to Andrew, "It's difficult to compete when coming off an injury so I'm happy with how things turned out given the circumstances." Matthews has been invited to attend the try-out camp to select next year's national team. The camp began on Sunday, April 6 until Thursday. Matthews said "It will be really tough to bump one of the current guys off the team. This will be a great experience and give me an opportunity to see what it takes to make the team."

Canadian Snowboard Nationals is hosted by the Canadian Snowboard Federation and is their final competition event for the season. It attracts the best riders in the country. Cypress Mountain is the location of the 2010 Olympic Freestyle Snowboarding competitions.

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